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Title: Need to revitalize the flagging Cachar Paper Mill, a unit of Hindustan Paper Corporation Limited at Panchgram, Assam.

SHRI RADHESHYAM BISWAS (KARIMGANJ): Cachar Paper MW, a unit of Hindustan Paper Corporation Limited at Panchgarm, Assam is the only heavy industry in the backward region of Barak Valley as well as my constituency. Cachar Paper Mill was a profit making and dividend paying company till few years ago and at that time it was the largest paper mill in Asia. Now, it is facing loss due to many reasons like shortage of fiber availability from Mizoram, short supply of coal from Meghalaya, bad road condition of the region and above all, lack of modernisation. While other paper manufacturing industries operating with latest technology are producing high quality paper with lower cost but the Panchgram unit is reeling under old and outdated machinery.

In reply to my question number no.3748 dated 16.12.2014, Ministry of Heavy industries had assured that they would provide working capital, transport subsidy and other financial assistance to revive the industry. Though problem in fibre availability and coal supply is being regularized, yet it is a matter of great concern that Cachar Paper Mill is going to be closed due to financial crisis.

Considering the above fact, I request the Union Minister of Heavy Industries to take immediate steps to save the industry.